Application No. 09/893,680 Reply to Office Action of May 5, 2004

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS** 

Claims 1-2 and 4-20 remain pending. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully

requested.

Applicants would like to thank Examiner Coleman for the indication of allowable

subject matter.

The rejection Claims 16 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, is believed to

be obviated by the amendment submitted above. Claim 16 has been amended to specify

"treating." Accordingly, withdrawal of this ground of rejection is respectfully requested.

The rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, is believed to be

obviated by the amendment submitted above. Claim 3 has been canceled. Claims 7 and 8

have been appropriately amended. Accordingly, withdrawal of this ground of rejection is

respectfully requested.

Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. Early

notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000

Fax: (703) 413 -2220

(OSMMN 08/03) NFO/JK/lcd

MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C. Norman F. Oblon

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,

Registration

8